

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

UBONG BASSEY OBOTETTE (OBONG),

Plaintiff,

-against-

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE,

Defendant.

20-CV-0876 (CM)

ORDER DIRECTING PAYMENT OF FEE
OR AMENDED IFP APPLICATION

COLLEEN McMAHON, Chief United States District Judge:

Plaintiff brings this action *pro se*. To proceed with a civil action in this Court, a plaintiff must either pay \$400.00 in fees – a \$350.00 filing fee plus a \$50.00 administrative fee – or, to request authorization to proceed *in forma pauperis* (“IFP”), that is, without prepayment of fees, submit a signed IFP application. *See* 28 U.S.C. §§ 1914, 1915.

Plaintiff submitted an IFP application but his responses do not establish that he is unable to pay the filing fees. Plaintiff states that he is unemployed and has received no income from any source in the past 12 months. Plaintiff further states that he has no money in a checking or savings account, no assets, no monthly expenses, and no debts or financial obligations. He does not answer the question on the form asking how he is paying his expenses. Because Plaintiff fails to provide information on how he pays for his living expenses, the Court is unable to conclude that he does not have sufficient funds to pay the relevant fees for this action.

Accordingly, within thirty days of the date of this order, Plaintiff must either pay the \$400.00 in fees or submit an amended IFP application. If Plaintiff submits the amended IFP application, it should be labeled with docket number 20-CV-0876 (CM), and address the deficiencies indicated above by providing facts to explain how he supports himself and to

establish that he is unable to pay the filing fees. If the Court grants the amended IFP application, Plaintiff will be permitted to proceed without prepayment of fees. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a)(1).

The Clerk of Court is directed to mail a copy of this order to Plaintiff and note service on the docket. No summons shall issue at this time. If Plaintiff complies with this order, the Court shall process the case in accordance with the procedures of the Clerk's Office. If Plaintiff fails to comply with this order within the time allowed, the Court will dismiss the action.

The Court certifies under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a)(3) that any appeal from this order would not be taken in good faith, and therefore IFP status is denied for the purpose of an appeal. *Cf. Coppedge v. United States*, 369 U.S. 438, 444–45 (1962) (holding that appellant demonstrates good faith when seeking review of a nonfrivolous issue).

SO ORDERED.

Dated: February 3, 2020
New York, New York

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Colleen McMahon", is written over a horizontal line.

COLLEEN McMAHON
Chief United States District Judge